

# FY 2012 Wyoming Guideline Sheet for Eligible Practices Sage-grouse–Working Lands For Wildlife (WLFW)

**Purpose:** This guideline document is to provide guidance or limitations for eligibility of practices for program financial assistance. All practices paid for through conservation program contracts must meet Wyoming NRCS Practice Standards and Specifications. Guidance in this document does not replace NRCS Standards and Specifications. Instead, it is meant to clarify or limit when a practice is eligible for payment.

**To determine what costs are included** for specific scenarios, please view the gray box on the Practice Payment Schedule (PPS) worksheets. All PPS worksheet files are on the Wyoming SharePoint site located at:

Programs > Practice Payment Schedules > Shared Documents > FY 2012 Practice Payment Schedules

**PRIOR to payment:** Refer to the FOTG conservation practice standard and specification for required criteria and documentation to certify completion of ALL practices prior to payment.

**High Impact Area:** Counties where energy development impacts and lack of available contractors has caused prices to be significantly above statewide "agricultural" prices (66 percent increase). Refer to Geographic Area to see which counties apply under specific practices.

**Revisions/Edits:** Revisions/edits are highlighted in yellow.

**New Scenarios:** New scenarios are highlighted in turquoise.

**Regional Scenarios:** Regionalized (ID-MT-WY) scenarios are highlighted in pink.

**Maximum Payments:** Maximum payments for specific practices are identified by white text on dark background.

## **Sage-grouse–Working Lands For Wildlife (WLFW):**

- ▶ Only practices that will improve rangeland health, benefit sage-grouse, or benefit/improve sage-grouse habitat directly may be contracted.
- ▶ The core conservation practice, 645-Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, must be implemented in a Sage-grouse–WLFW contract (this is a non-payment rate item, but still must be a CIN).
- ▶ Additional supporting practices that may also be included in a Sage-grouse–WLFW contract are:

314 – Brush Management	516 – Pipeline
315 – Herbaceous Weed Control	528 – Prescribed Grazing
327 – Conservation Cover	533 – Pumping Plant
328 – Conservation Crop Rotation	548 – Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment
338 – Prescribed Burning	550 – Range Planting
340 – Cover Crop	560 – Access Road
342 – Critical Area Planting	574 – Spring Development
378 – Pond	595 – Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
380 – Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	614 – Watering Facility
382 – Fence	642 – Water Well
390 – Riparian Herbaceous Cover	643 – Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats
394 – Firebreak	645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
410 – Grade Stabilization Structure	654 – Road / Trail / Landing Closure and Treatment
500 – Obstruction Removal	734 – Fish and Wildlife Structure
511 – Forage Harvest Management	
512 – Forage and Biomass Planting	



### 314 – Brush Management

- Sagebrush management will have complete inventory, grazing and brush management plans that are approved by Area Range Staff along with consultation from Wyoming Game and Fish prior to application.
- In all cases be aware of the Food Security Act provisions.
- No mechanical stump removal within fifty (50) feet of riparian area.
- Practice 595–Integrated Pest Management (IPM), must be implemented along with this practice—an environmental assessment will be completed for all pest controls. Non-chemical control methods will be mitigated and documented on the WY ECS 46 worksheet.
- Practice 595–Integrated Pest Management (IPM), if contracted, must be a separate item.

#### **Mechanical, Low Intensity**

#### **Statewide**

- Entails the use of less intense mechanical methods (i.e. aerator, brush hog, Dixie harrow, chisel, etc.).

#### **Mechanical, Medium Intensity**

#### **Statewide**

- Entails the use of moderately-intense mechanical methods (i.e. chainsaw, chaining, dozing etc.).

#### **Mechanical, High Intensity**

#### **Statewide**

- Entails the use of mechanical methods (i.e. hydro axe, fecon grinder, masticator, etc.) to eradicate and control salt-cedar (tamarisk), Russian olive, or sprouting species requiring similar treatment methods in Wyoming to restore the hydrology and native plant communities. This scenario applies to sites infested beyond the ecological site capabilities. Woody Species Control, Chemical Treatment, Primary and/or Secondary/Tertiary, may be used for chemical treatment in the same contract as dictated by resource conditions as necessary to control re-growth.

#### **High Intensity Mechanical, Difficult**

#### **Statewide**

##### **(Mechanical, High Intensity, Difficult Site)**

- Entails the use of mechanical methods (i.e. hydro axe, fecon grinder, masticator, etc.); difficult sites are characterized by challenging access. Some sites will have steep slopes that tracked machines cannot get to or the trees are out of reach. Others may be fairly flat, but have excessive eroded gullies or wetlands that are less than 20 feet in elevation and do not show up on the topographic imagery. Either way, difficulty in accessing the trees significantly increases the time needed to achieve the required mechanical and/or chemical control specification. Difficult sites will also often have significant native cottonwood or willow in and amongst the non-native trees and dense stands of Russian olive and/or salt cedar (tamarisk). Significant hand work with a chainsaw is required for high density or difficult sites because so many of the sprouting species are not accessible by machinery.

#### **Chemical, Low Intensity**

#### **Statewide**

- Entails the use of 2-4D or similar general herbicide that has adequate efficacy to reduce undesirable species and provide for desired condition. Application may include ground and/or aerial methods, based on site conditions.

#### **Chemical, High Intensity**

#### **Statewide**

- Entails the use of tebuthiuron or similar specialty herbicide with efficacy needed to reduce undesirable species and provide for desired condition. Application may include ground and/or aerial methods, based on site conditions.

#### **Woody Species Control, Primary Chemical Treatment**

#### **Statewide**

- Primary Chemical Treatment to eradicate and control salt-cedar (tamarisk), Russian olive, or sprouting species requiring similar treatment methods in Wyoming. This scenario applies to sites infested beyond the ecological site capabilities. During the growing season (Jul 1 - Aug 31) apply herbicide to provide needed primary chemical treatment to prevent and/or kill re-sprouts emerging post-mechanical treatment.

#### **Woody Species Control, Secondary/Tertiary Chemical Treatment**

#### **Statewide**

- Secondary/Tertiary (follow-up) Chemical Treatment to eradicate and control salt-cedar (tamarisk), Russian olive, or sprouting species requiring similar treatment methods in Wyoming. This scenario applies to sites infested beyond the ecological site capabilities. During the growing season (Jul 1 - Aug 31) apply herbicide to provide needed secondary or tertiary treatment following a primary or secondary chemical treatment to kill re-sprouts emerging post-primary/secondary treatment.



### 315 – Herbaceous Weed Control

➤ **Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years.**

- Removal or control of herbaceous weeds including invasive, noxious, and prohibited plants.
- An environmental assessment will be completed for all pest controls.
- Chemical/non-chemical control methods will be mitigated and documented on the WY ECS 46 worksheet.
- Cheatgrass: Approval by the Area Resource Conservationist (ARC) is required prior to contracting for concurrence of acres planned for control.
- Eligible: This practice is eligible on all lands except active cropland/hayland.

#### **Mechanical Weed Control (permanent vegetation establishment)      Statewide**

- Weed control for newly seeded plantings.

#### **Herbaceous Weed Control – Grazing      Statewide**

- Removal or control of herbaceous weeds (invasive, noxious, and prohibited plants) with intense short-term grazing to improve plant condition. Intense short-term grazing (including portable fence and water) to facilitate the control of invasive, noxious and prohibited plants. Electric wire is installed around the invasive species infestation and grazed as a separate pasture. When the invasive species have been grazed the animals are moved.

#### **Beneficial Insect – Collect and Release      Statewide**

- Beneficial insects are used to control invasive, noxious and prohibited plants. Insects will be collected from existing populations and distributed to the planned site.

#### **Beneficial Insect – Purchase and Release      Statewide**

- Beneficial insects are used to control invasive, noxious and prohibited plants. Insects will be purchased and distributed to the planned site.

#### **Herbaceous Weed Control, Vehicle or Aerial Application      Statewide**

- 1) Aerial: helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft **OR** 2) Vehicle: light-truck, 4-wheeler or similar vehicle with boom or wand spray rig spraying pesticide(s) to control invasive, noxious and prohibited plants.

#### **Herbaceous Weed Control, Backpack Application      Statewide**

- Spraying pesticide(s) to control invasive, noxious and prohibited plants

### 327 – Conservation Cover

- This practice does not apply to plantings for forage production (cannot be harvested).

#### **Seedbed Preparation, Seed and Seeding, Pollinator      Statewide**

- **Guidance provided in Wyoming Plant Materials Technical Note No. 17, Plants for Pollinators.**

### 328 – Conservation Crop Rotation

➤ **Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years. Exception: Irrigation Reduction (convert cropland to dryland crop production) scenarios.**

- In order to document meeting the soil erosion requirement for organic certification, WY-ECS-40A and WY-ECS-40B are also required.
- A resource conserving crop rotation requires one of the following sequences: A) a minimum of 3 crops with at least 2 different crops being high-residue; **OR** B) a minimum of 2 different crops, if one crop is a perennial lasting two years; **OR** C) a minimum of 2 different crops, one high-residue and an unharvested cover crop following one of the crop years (i.e. summer fallow will always have a cover crop).

#### **Crop Rotation, Resource Conserving – Soil Quality      Statewide**

- Crop rotation will include an additional crop species (minimum of 3 crops) and at least 1/2 the rotation is a high-residue crop. A rotation may also be a minimum of 2 crops, if no perennial, and includes an unharvested cover crop **OR** a minimum of 2 crops, if one crop is a perennial lasting 2 years. Note: summer fallow will have a cover crop.

### 338 – Prescribed Burning

#### **Prescribed Burning      Statewide**

#### 340 – Cover Crop

- Fertilizer and weed suppression may be needed to establish the crop (costs not included).
- The cover crop may be killed by frost, chemical application, tillage, or other mechanical means depending on the scenario.

##### **Erosion Control, Conventional**

**Statewide**

- The soil is disked or chiseled and cultipacked or harrowed and seeded to cover crops. Species can be grasses, legumes, cereal, and/or forbs planted for seasonal cover primarily to protect erosive soils. Typical cover crops consist of Austrian winter peas, lentils, oats, and/or other species that are typical for the area and readily available.

##### **Erosion Control, No-till**

**Statewide**

- The cover crop is no-till seeded. Species can be grasses, legumes, cereal, and/or forbs planted for seasonal cover primarily to protect erosive soils. Typical cover crops consist of Austrian winter peas, lentils, oats or other species that are typical for the area and readily available.

##### **Soil Quality, Conventional**

**Statewide**

- The soil is disked or chiseled and cultipacked or harrowed and seeded to a cover crop. Species are typically legumes, brassicas, deep-rooted crops, and other species (e.g. a cocktail mix of radish, turnip, peas, clovers, and small grains). The cover crop is used primarily to add nitrogen to the soil, provide soil organic matter, break pest cycles, suppress weeds, and/or provide cover for wildlife.

##### **Soil Quality, No-till**

**Statewide**

- The cover crop is no-till seeded. Species are typically legumes, brassicas, deep-rooted crops, and other species (e.g. a cocktail mix of radish, turnip, peas, clovers, and small grains). The cover crop is used primarily to add nitrogen to the soil, provide soil organic matter, break pest cycles, suppress weeds, and/or provide cover for wildlife.

#### 342 – Critical Area Planting

- For the Sage-grouse–WLFW effort, it is required that ALL (100%) of the species are native.
- Extents greater than ten (10) acres require Area Resource Conservationist (ARC) approval.

##### **Drilled, Native (seedbed prep, seed and seeding)**

**Statewide**

##### **Drilled, Introduced (seedbed prep, seed and seeding)**

**Statewide**

##### **Drilled, Introduced (seed and seeding only)**

**Statewide**

##### **Broadcast, Native (distribute and drag seed)**

**Statewide**

##### **Broadcast, Introduced (distribute and drag seed)**

**Statewide**

#### 378 – Pond

- It is highly recommended a thorough site investigation be conducted to assess needs and feasibility. If the site is not complex and can be designed at the local level, contracting may continue. If the site needs assistance from the area or state level, it is recommended a preliminary design be prepared before assignment of a medium or high priority in the screening process.

##### **Rock Riprap with gravel bedding**

**Statewide**

- Includes rock riprap, gravel, haul and geotextile only.

##### **Rock Riprap with gravel bedding, High Impact Area**

**Campbell, Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta Counties.**

##### **Drain**

**Statewide**

##### **Sheet Piling**

**Statewide**

- Includes sheet piling material and installation (no rock fill or gravel).

##### **Principal Spillway (diameter inch per linear foot)**

**Statewide**



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**378 – Pond- continued**

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Excavated (per cubic yard)	<b>Statewide</b>
Excavated (per cubic yard), High Impact Area	<b>Campbell, Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta Counties.</b>
Excavated, WET (per cubic yard)	<b>Statewide</b>
Excavated, WET (per cubic yard), High Impact Area	<b>Campbell, Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta Counties.</b>
Excavated (per each)	<b>Statewide</b>
Excavated (per each), High Impact Area	<b>Campbell, Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta Counties.</b>
Embankment less than 1,000 cubic yards	<b>Statewide</b>
Embankment less than 1,000 cubic yards, High Impact Area	<b>Campbell, Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta Counties.</b>
Embankment (per cubic yard)	<b>Statewide</b>
Embankment (per cubic yard), High Impact Area	<b>Campbell, Carbon, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta Counties.</b>
Embankment Rehab (excavate and fill)	<b>Statewide</b>
Rehab, Silt Removal	<b>Statewide</b>

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**380 – Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment**

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Bare Root	<b>Statewide</b>
Small Containerized / Potted (tubes or Styrofoam trays)	<b>Statewide</b>
1-gallon Container	<b>Statewide</b>
Rodent Protection	<b>Statewide</b>
Big Game Protection	<b>Statewide</b>
Bare Root, Hand Plant, Pollinators with Rodent Protection	<b>Statewide</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See Wyoming Plant Materials Technical Note No. 17, Plants for Pollinators.</li></ul>	

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**382 – Fence**

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- **Ineligible:** To separate grazinglands from non-grazinglands (cropland). Exception for windbreaks, riparian corridors and special-use areas for wildlife; and protection of structural conservation practices from livestock grazing.
- **Ineligible:** Along property boundaries including federal, state, county, Tribal and private. Exceptions:
  - Wildlife friendly fencing along migration corridors (see Conversion of existing fences under practice 734–Fish and Wildlife Structure).
- **Ineligible:** Along roads including federal, state, county, railway, and Tribal.
- **Ineligible:** To keep livestock within the boundaries of a prescribed grazing system(s), range unit, allotment, grazing area, Tribal grazing unit, etc. (perimeter fence).
- **Eligible:** To protect culturally or socially sensitive areas from livestock use.
- **Eligible:** Lanes required for rotation of cattle between pastures within a prescribed grazing system provided they are not adjacent to a road as defined above and are inside the boundary of the grazing system, range unit, allotment, grazing area, Tribal grazing unit, etc.

### 382 – Fence- continued

- Eligible: Boundary fences around expired CRP acres as part of a special state initiative. Must be an integral part of a conservation management system. Boundary fences allowed for land that has expired or will expire in the fiscal year of the contract obligation.
- Eligible: Control the movement of cattle within a prescribed grazing system, range unit, allotment, grazing area, Tribal grazing unit, etc. (cross fences) regardless of ownership.
- Eligible: Fences used as a facilitating practice to implement a prescribed grazing system. Land eligible for fencing will include land that is used for grazing during the growing season and is included in the grazing scheduler as part of the prescribed grazing plan.
- All fences planned to improve grazing management will be wildlife friendly following the updated practice standard (01/2011) unless otherwise approved by the State Resource Conservationist (SRC) through the variance process.

#### **Multi-strand, Barbed or Smooth Wire**

**Statewide**

#### **Barbed or Smooth Wire, Difficult Installation**

**Statewide**

#### **Electric or Suspension**

**Statewide**

#### **Livestock Facility Fence**

**Statewide**

#### **Jack, Buck and Pole, etc.**

**Statewide**

### 390 – Riparian Herbaceous Cover

- Extents greater than ten (10) acres require Area Resource Conservationist (ARC) approval.

#### **Broadcast**

**Statewide**

- Relatively steep area, seed broadcasted and tracked with a dozer for seed soil contact.  
**Does not include** tree planting mainly for wood products.

### 394 – Firebreak

- **Non-vegetative firebreaks** consist of a strip of land with no vegetation or other combustible material for their entire width. The surface material of non-vegetative firebreaks will be bare soil, gravel, or road-surfacing material. In shrub and brush plant communities less than 10 feet in height, the minimum width of non-vegetated firebreaks is 10 feet on level ground and 15 feet on slopes ranging between 6 and 20 percent. In conifer plant communities greater than 10 feet in height, the minimum width of non-vegetated firebreaks is 35 feet on level ground and 50 feet on slopes between 6 and 20 percent. Erosion control must be considered when established on slopes greater than 6 percent.
- **Vegetated firebreaks** consist of short vegetation or vegetation that can be kept short with frequent mowing or grazing. They are prepared in the following ways: Shallow cultivation or mowing, shredding or clipping of vegetation (vegetation left on surface shall be removed). Application of an herbicide treatment designed to limit growth but not necessarily kill existing vegetation. Intensively grazing strips of vegetation (stubble height should be 2 to 3 inches following grazing). In shrub and brush plant communities less than 10 feet in height, the minimum width of vegetated firebreaks is 50 feet on level ground and 75 feet on slopes between 6 and 20 percent. In conifer plant communities greater than 10 feet in height, the minimum width of vegetated firebreaks is 100 feet on level ground and 125 feet on slopes between 6 and 20 percent.

#### **Non-vegetative, tillage on level ground**

**Statewide**

- Level ground – 3 disk operations per year.

#### **Non-vegetative, tillage with 3 water bars per acre on 6-20% slope**

**Statewide**

- Sloping ground (6-20% slope) – 3 disk operations per year.

#### **Mowing to establish and maintain vegetative strip**

**Statewide**

- One (1) mowing for establishment of firebreak and two (2) post-establishment mowing to reduce fine fuels (mid June and early August).

#### **Vegetative Firebreak - Introduced**

**Statewide**



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**394 – Firebreak- continued**

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**Vegetative Firebreak - Native (100% of the seed mix/species must be native)**

**Statewide**

**Removal of timber, slash, and other woody fuel greater than 3-inch diameter**

**Statewide**

- 100% timber, slash, and other woody fuel greater than 3-inch diameter removed for establishment of firebreak and two (2) post-establishment mowing to reduce fine fuels (mid June and early August).

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**410 – Grade Stabilization Structure**

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**Rock Riprap with gravel bedding**

**Statewide**

- Includes rock riprap, gravel, haul and geotextile only.

**Rock Riprap with gravel bedding, High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

**Rock Structure less than 36" diameter rock**

**Statewide**

**Rock Structure less than 36" diameter rock, High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

**Rock Structure greater than 36" diameter rock**

**Statewide**

**Rock Structure greater than 36" diameter rock, High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

**Drain**

**Statewide**

**Sheet Piling**

**Statewide**

- Includes sheet piling material and installation (no rock fill or gravel).

**Principal Spillway (diameter inch per linear foot)**

**Statewide**

**Excavated (per cubic yard)**

**Statewide**

**Excavated (per cubic yard), High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

**Excavated, WET (per cubic yard)**

**Statewide**

**Excavated, WET (per cubic yard), High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

**Log Weir**

**Statewide**

**Concrete Drop Structure**

**Statewide**

**Wood Drop Structure (per board foot)**

**Statewide**

**Earth Fill Drop Structure with corrugated metal pipe (CMP)**

**Statewide**

**Embankment less than 1,000 cubic yards**

**Statewide**

**Embankment less than 1,000 cubic yards, High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

**Embankment (per cubic yard)**

**Statewide**

**Embankment (per cubic yard), High Impact Area**

***Campbell, Carbon, Johnson, Lincoln, Sheridan, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton and Uinta.***

#### 410 – Grade Stabilization Structure- continued

##### Embankment Rehab (excavate and fill)

**Statewide**

##### Rehab, Silt Removal

**Statewide**

#### 500 – Obstruction Removal

- Associated with tree, fence, power line removal, and burying debris piles for the Sage-grouse–WLFW effort.
- Cultural Resources Specialist concurrence may be required

##### Obstruction Removal, Trees /Vegetation

**Statewide**

##### Obstruction Removal, Remove Fence

**Statewide**

- Include for livestock facility if design requires fence removal (not included in practice 561–Heavy Use Area Protection).

##### Obstruction Removal, Remove Fence, Difficult Sites

**Statewide**

- Difficult Sites are characterized by challenging access. Some sites will have trees (forest) and steep slopes that are difficult to access with equipment/machinery. Others may be fairly flat, but have excessively eroded gullies or wetlands that do not show up on the topographic imagery. Either way, difficulty in accessing the fence significantly increases the time needed to achieve the desired objective. Significant hand work may be required for difficult sites and additional man power will be required due to difficulty in dismantling the fence.

##### Obstruction Removal, Bury Debris Pile(s), Sage-grouse–WLFW effort

**Statewide**

##### Obstruction Removal, Remove Power Line(s), Sage-grouse–WLFW effort

**Statewide**

##### ➤ Maximum payment on this scenario is \$10,000 per contract item.

- Eligible: Only under Sage-grouse–WLFW effort.
- Eligible: Line portion owned by the participant (typically from the participant's meter to the well location).
- Contingent upon the power company removing their portion of the line that solely serves that location.

#### 511 – Forage Harvest Management

##### Habitat Management on Hayland, Sage-grouse–WLFW effort

**Statewide**

- Eligible only within 10 miles from a sage-grouse lek and within 1/2 mile from sagebrush.
- Utilize one or more of the following:
  - Mow only during daylight hours.
  - Mow from the center of the field outward, or from one end to the other, not from the outside inward.
  - Use a flushing bar.
- Until killing frost, leave a border of unharvested vegetation on at least one side of the field (preferably adjacent to sagebrush habitat for escape cover). The field border must be at least 30 feet wide and a minimum of 1/2 acre for every 40 acres of hayland.
- Payment based on total hayland acres enrolled.

#### 512 – Forage and Biomass Planting

- The maximum allowable legume component of an approved seed mix is thirty percent (30%). Exception, unless it is for pollinators as approved by the Area Resource Conservationist (ARC).
- Payment includes seedbed preparation, seeding operations and seed.
- Weed control is required if needed for stand establishment.

##### Seedbed Prep., Seed and Seeding – Introduced Forage Species Following Crop

**Statewide**

##### Seedbed Prep., Seed and Seeding – Native Plant Species Following Crop

**Statewide**

##### Seedbed Prep., Seed and Seeding, Including Pollinator Species

**Statewide**



## 516 – Pipeline

### Pipe Installation, Above Frost Line

Statewide

### Below Frost Line - Trencher, Ripper, or Backhoe (Pipeline Installation, below frost)

Statewide

### Pipe Installation, Boring

Statewide

- PVC/HDPE bored horizontally under road, railroad, or other earthfill structure where trenched excavation is not feasible for livestock water delivery.

### Steel Pipe Installation

Statewide

## 528 – Prescribed Grazing

➤ **Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years. Exception: Does not apply to scenarios for Sage-grouse–WLFW contracts.**

### Rangeland Prescribed Grazing

Statewide

### Wildfire Recovery

Statewide

### Grazing with the Use of a Herder

Statewide

### Habitat Management on Grazingland, Option 1/Option A

Statewide

- All fences within 0.6 miles of a lek or that pass through sage-grouse concentration areas (i.e. important winter habitat, brood habitat, etc.) will need to be marked.
- All watering facilities are equipped with escape ramps; optional at headquarters.
- Grazing system to be implemented is designed to improve rangeland health.
- Rangeland monitoring is conducted on one site per 1,000 acres and at least one per pasture. Federal land will not be included. Monitoring procedures, at a minimum, include:
  - Form WY-ECS-414, Actual Use Record, or equivalent; including percent utilization by weight of key species, AND
  - Photo point (follow procedure in 2008 WY Rangeland Monitoring Guide), AND
  - At least one additional different monitoring technique from the 2008 Wyoming Rangeland Monitoring Guide.
- Payment is based on total grazingland acres enrolled.

### Habitat Management on Grazingland, Option 2/Option B

Statewide

- All fences within 0.6 miles of a lek or that pass through sage-grouse concentration areas (i.e. important winter habitat, brood habitat, etc.) will need to be marked.
- All watering facilities are equipped with escape ramps; optional at headquarters.
- To be eligible, a minimum of 10% canopy cover of sagebrush is required on 10% of enrolled acres.
- The grazing system to be implemented is designed to specifically improve sage-grouse nesting and early brood rearing habitat. Nesting residual cover must be improved on sage-grouse nesting and early brood rearing habitat on at least 20% of total grazingland acres enrolled, of which, the maximum percent possible is sagebrush habitat. If less than 20% of the grazingland acres enrolled are sagebrush acres, adjacent non-sagebrush habitat can be included in the area managed for increased residual cover. Rotation of these acres is encouraged but not required. The goal for nesting and brood rearing habitat is to provide at least 6 inches of residual herbaceous cover by March 15<sup>th</sup> and leave undisturbed until July 15<sup>th</sup>. Average perennial cover of 4 inches during the same period is the goal for precipitation zones of 10 inches or less. In order to achieve this, implementation of a rest/rotation grazing system or a deferred grazing system with light utilization will likely be required. Monoculture sites such as crested wheatgrass fields, seeded areas or large areas of cheatgrass must meet all criteria indicated in the sage-grouse and Rangeland WHEG (excluding Question 1 in the Rangeland WHEG).
- Rangeland monitoring is conducted on one site per 1,000 acres and at least one per pasture. Federal land will not be included. Monitoring procedures, at a minimum, include:
  - Form WY-ECS-414, Actual Use Record, or equivalent; including percent utilization by weight of key species, AND
  - Photo point (follow procedure in 2008 WY Rangeland Monitoring Guide), AND
  - At least one additional different monitoring technique from the 2008 Wyoming Rangeland Monitoring Guide.
- Payment is based on total grazingland acres enrolled.



### 533 – Pumping Plant

- Any livestock water pumping plant will be designed and payment made for livestock needs only.
- Eligible: For livestock water pumps, portable power sources (solar panels, fuel and propane generators, or hydraulic rams) may be moved from water source to water source. **HOWEVER** the submersible pump **CANNOT** be removed from the well.

#### Pumping Plant with Solar Power

**Statewide**

- For livestock wells equal to or greater than 100 TDH, contract 400 watts.
- For livestock wells less than 100 TDH, contract 250 watts.

#### Windmill or Generator Powered Pumping System

**Statewide**

#### Pump with Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)

**Statewide**

#### Less than 2 Horsepower Pump

**Statewide**

#### Centrifugal and Turbine Pumps greater than 2 to less than or equal to 10 HP AND all Floating Pumps

**Statewide**

#### Centrifugal and Turbine Pumps greater than 10 to less than or equal to 50 HP

**Statewide**

#### Centrifugal and Turbine Pumps greater than 50HP OR Lagoon Pumps

**Statewide**

#### Manure Pump

**Statewide**

### 548 – Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment

#### Chiseling, Pitting, Ripping or Subsoiling

**Statewide**

### 550 – Range Planting

- For this practice, it is required that ALL (100%) of the species are native, otherwise practice 512–Forage and Biomass Planting, Introduced Scenario should be used.

#### Drill, Native, (100% of the seed mix/species must be native)

**Statewide**

#### Drill, Native – Pollinators

**Statewide**

- See Wyoming Plant Materials Technical Note No. 17, Plants for Pollinators.

### 560 – Access Road

#### Single Lane, Earthen, Access Road

**Statewide**

### 574 – Spring Development

#### Spring Development

**Statewide**

- Includes up to 100 feet of pipeline for tank delivery; if more than 100 feet is needed then add practice 516–Pipeline, to cover the remaining amount.

#### Retrofit an existing Spring Development

**Statewide**

- Install valves, fittings, etc to allow water to flow back to creek or stream.

### 595 – Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

- **Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years for the following scenarios.**

#### Range/Pasture

**Statewide**



#### 614 – Watering Facility

- **Ineligible:** Tanks on hayland or cropland.
- **Ineligible:** Galvanized steel bottom tanks. Exception, unless approved by the Area Engineer.
- Plan and pay on nominal amount according to manufacturers/vendors stated design capacity.

**Less than or Equal to 1,200 Gallons on a per each basis**

**Statewide**

**Greater than 1,200 to Less than 8,000 Gallons**

**Statewide**

**Greater than 8,000 Gallons**

**Statewide**

**Storage Tank**

**Statewide**

**Automatic Waterer with No Storage**

**Statewide**

**Wildlife Watering Facility – Guzzler**

**Statewide**

#### 642 – Water Well

- **Ineligible:** Water wells for irrigation.
- **Ineligible:** Payment on dry wells.
- Any water well planned to be greater than 200-foot depth will require consultation and approval with the NRCS State Geologist.

**Water Well, Drilled, Cased less than 100 feet**

**Statewide**

**Water Well, Drilled, Cased 100 to 700 feet**

**Statewide**

**Water Well, Drilled, Cased greater than 700 feet**

**Statewide**

#### 643 – Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats

- **NO maximum payment on this practice.**

- Cultural Resources Specialist concurrence may be required.
- Seed mix/species must closely match what is expected in the Historic Climax Plant Community (dominant species) for the appropriate ecological site description (ESD).

**Sagebrush Seeding**

**Statewide**

- Two years of grazing deferment after seeding.

#### 645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

- Habitat Management on Grazingland, Sage-grouse–WLFW effort options are now under practice 528–Prescribed Grazing.
- Habitat Management on Hayland, Sage-grouse–WLFW effort is now under practice 511–Forage Harvest Management.

**Lek Monitoring, Sage-grouse–WLFW effort**

**Statewide**

- Conduct and document annual lek counts on one or more active sage-grouse leks on the operation following Wyoming Game and Fish protocol.

**Upland Wildlife Management**

**Statewide**

#### 654 – Road / Trail / Landing Closure and Treatment

**Decommission less than 15% hill slope**

**Statewide**

**Decommission 15% to 30% hill slope**

**Statewide**

**Decommission greater than 30% hill slope**

**Statewide**

- Eligible: Conversion of existing fences to wildlife friendly structures on portions of fence within migration corridors, critical-use areas, or other areas with wildlife concerns. Migration corridors and/or heavy wildlife use areas are to be determined by local Wyoming Game & Fish Department personnel.

**Fence Marking**

**Statewide**

- Mark fences within 0.6 miles of a lek where passing through important winter habitat or fences where evidence of sage-grouse collisions have been observed.
- Use 3 inch by 2 inch vinyl “flapper” (or equivalent if approved by Area Office) spaced 6 feet apart.

**Escape Ramps on Existing Watering Facilities**

**Statewide**

**Fish Screen - Pipe Intake**

**Statewide**

- Fish screen on an irrigation intake pipe (sump) to restrict fish passage into irrigation pump & waterways.

**Fence, RetroFit Wildlife Friendly**

**Statewide**

- RetroFit Wildlife Friendly: Removal of existing wildlife unfriendly fence (or components only) and replace with a wildlife friendly fence. This scenario is not meant to replace entire fence length – only areas where migration routes or sage-grouse strikes have been documented. Work with Area Resource Conservationist to determine placement, lengths and position of wildlife friendly fencing. Payable length is limited to distance required for adequate wildlife movement (typically no more than 1/4 mile per mile of fence).

**Fence, RetroFit Wildlife Friendly, High Impact Area**

**Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater,  
Teton and Uinta Counties**

**Fence, RetroFit Wire Adjustment Only, Wildlife Friendly**

**Statewide**

- RetroFit Wire Adjustment Only: Work with Area Resource Conservationist to determine placement, lengths and position of wildlife friendly fencing. Payable length is limited to distance required for adequate wildlife movement (typically no more than 1/4 mile per mile of fence).

**Fence, RetroFit Wire Only, Wildlife Friendly, High Impact Area**

**Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater,  
Teton and Uinta Counties**